

Message Text

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PAGE 01 BUENOS 04268 082024Z

ACTION ARA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EB-07 SSO-00 TRSE-00 AID-05 DHA-02

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INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02

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INFO USIA WASHDC IMMEDIATE

UNCLAS BUENOS AIRES 4268

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, PINT, SHUM, EAID, AR, US

SUBJECT: MARTINEZ DE HOZ BILATERALS-PRESS REPORTS

STATE FOR ARA, EB; USIA FOR ILA

REF: STATE 131257

1. CONTINUED HEAVY COVERAGE, ALTHOUGH SLIGHTLY DIMINISHED, MARTINEZ DE HOZ TALKS IN US, INCLUDING MEETINGS WITH NYT, TIME AND JOURNAL OF COMMERCE NEWSMEN, AS PRESS ASSESSED OPTIMISTICALLY RESULTS OF TRIP. SOME DISCUSSION MAJOR PROBLEM PRESENTED BY POSSIBILITY US MIGHT VETO LOAN REQUESTS BY ARGENTINA IN INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS.

2. "CRONISTA COMERCIAL" FRONT PAGE SAID ARGENTINE MISSION AFTER OBTAINING FULL RATIFICATION ITS ECONOMIC PLAN FROM IDB MEETING CONSOLIDATED CONTACTS WITH US FINANCIAL WORLD, PREPARED GROUND FOR LARGER INVESTMENTS AND "FACED DETERMINEDLY ONE OF MOST DIFFICULT FLANKS, THAT OF HUMAN RIGHTS, BEFORE HIGHEST LEVEL OF DEMOCRATIC GOVERNMENT."

3. "CLARIN" SUMMARIZED: "A FIRST BALANCE SHEET OF EFFORTS OF UNCLASSIFIED

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PAGE 02 BUENOS 04268 082024Z

MARTINEZ DE HOZ INDICATES ARGENTINE-US RELATIONS, AND MORE SPECIFICALLY WITH CARTER AND HIS PERSONNEL, CAN TAKE POSITIVE TURN IF TENDENCIES TO DIALOG AND RECIPROCAL UNDERSTANDING ALREADY SUGGESTED, MATURE. BESIDES IT IS NECESSARY TO TAKE INTO ACCOUNT (FACT) THAT BRAZIL NOW DOES NOT AWAKEN THE NORTH AMERICAN ENTHUSIASM OF RECENT TIMES."

4. "NACION" FRONT-PAGE CARRIED AP STORY UNDER FOUR-COLUMN-HEAD: "NEW CONTACTS OF MARTINEZ DE HOZ: MINISTER OF ECONOMY CONVERSED WITH US EDITORIALISTS; OPTIMISTIC IMPRESSION OVER HIS TRIP." SEPARATE STORY FROM ITS CORRESPONDENT SAID IN MEETINGS WITH NYT AND TIME MAGAZINE MARTINEZ DE HOZ STRESSED GOA IS IN SOLID POSITION POLITICALLY AND IF THERE ARE DIFFERENCES AMONG ARMED FORCES THEY DON'T AFFECT GOVERNMENT. ALSO REPORTED MINISTER AFFIRMED THAT ARMED FORCES BACK ECONOMIC PROGRAM..."

5. "PRENSA" INSIDE CARRIED UP STORY LEADING WITH MEETING WITH PETROLEUM COMPANY EXECUTIVES, WHICH EXXON SPOKESMAN TERMED "COURTESY VISIT." STORY ALSO MENTIONED MARTINEZ DE HOZ INTERVIEW WITH RADIO RIVADAVIA CORRESPONDENT IN WHICH MINISTER EXPRESSED SATISFACTION FOR RESULTS OF TRIP INCLUDING CLARIFICATION OF CONCEPTS AND MISUNDERSTANDINGS OVER HUMAN RIGHTS."

6 "CRONISTA COMERCAIAL," DEVOTING FULL PAGE INSIDE TO ASSESSMENT OF TRIP, SAID SOURCES CLOSE TO DELEGATION AFFIRMED CONVICTION THEY "HAVE REACHED STRICTLY ECONOMIC OBJECTIVES SOUGHT AND AT SAME TIME POLITICAL YIELDS OF UNDENIABLE BENEFIT FOR COUNTRY WERE OBTAINED."

7. STORY DISCUSSED PROPOSED AMENDMENTS BEFORE CONGRESS. SAID HOUSE VERSION WOULD REQUIRE US DELEGATES TO INTERNATIONAL FINANCIAL ORGANIZATIONS SUCH AS WORLD BANK AND BID TO VOTE NEGATIVELY ON LOANS IF COUNTRY SEEKING THEM DOES NOT RESPECT HUMAN RIGHTS; NOTES US CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEE WOULD MAKE DETERMINATION. SAYS SENATE VERSION WOULD GIVE GREATER ROOM TO SECRETARY OF TREASURY FOR MANEUVERING."

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PAGE 03 BUENOS 04268 082024Z

8. DAILY ALSO REPORTED THAT OPINION OF TREASURY AND STATE DEPARTMENT OFFICIALS "IS THAT GOVERNMENT OF GENERAL VIDELAIPAS GAINED IN PRESTIGE AND IMAGE" AS RESULT OF MARTINEZ DE HOZ-BRZEZINSKI AND MARTINEZ DE HOZ-BLUMENTHAL INTERVIEWS. "SOME THINK," IT ADDED, "THAT THIS CAN BE THE BEGINNING OF A NEW STAGE OF COOPERATION AND UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN US AND ARGENTINA. 'WE HAD VERY DIFFERENT IDEA OF THAT WHICH IS HAPPENING IN ARGENTINA,' SAID ONE COLLABORATOR OF CARTER ADMINISTRATION, 'WITH RESPECT TO STRUGGLE AGAINST GUERRILLAS, RESPECT FOR HUMAN RIGHTS AND RELIGIOUS AND RACIAL TOLERANCE.'"

9. "NACION" AND "BTCLARIN" PARTICULARLY STRESSED MINISTER'S MEETINGS JUNE 7 AND 8 WITH NYT, TIME, WALL STREET JOURNAL AND JOURNAL OF COMMERCE PERSONNEL. "NACION" REPORT SAID IMPORTANCE OF INTERVIEWS WITH NYT AND TIME RESULTS FROM RELEVANCE MINISTER GAVE CLARIFICATION QUESTIONS OF POLITICAL NATURE SUCH AS HUMAN RIGHTS AND GOA PROSPECTS OF STABILITY. AP REPORT CARRIED BY DAILY QUOTED DIPLOMATIC AND BUSINESS SOURCES AS AGREEING THAT AT LEAST (IN)...

BANKING, COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY MINISTER HAS HAD EXCELLENT RESULTS. REFERRING TO MARTINEZ DE HOZ-BRZEZINSKI MEETING, IT SAID, "IF FROM GESTURE OF THIS NATURE NO RESULTS OR FORMAL DECLARATIONS CAN BE EXPECTED, INFORMED SOURCES UNDERLINED MEETING MADE EVIDENT WASHINGTON'S INTEREST IN ARGENTINE SITUATION AFTER HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES APPROVED TWO WEEKS AGO BY VERY NARROW MARGIN TO CONTINUE WITH MILITARY AID TO ARGENTINA."

10. "CLARIN" SAID "PREFERRED THEME" IN MEETINGS WITH JOURNALISTS WAS THAT OF HUMAN RIGHTS. LAMENTED WHAT IT TERMED "WORK OF ANTS" DUE TO FACT ARGENTINA ISN'T GIVEN IMPORTANCE BY US PRESS AND "NEWS THAT COMES FROM THERE GIVES THEM IMPROBABLE (PICTURE). PRESENCE OF MARTINEZ DE HOZ IN US PASSED ALMOST UNNOTICED TO MOMENT, EXCEPT FOR SPECIALIZED 'JOURNAL OF COMMERCE' THAT IN TWO COLUMNS GAVE RESUME OF SPEECH BEFORE COUNCIL OF AMERICAS." CHAPLIN

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